

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Claim 1. (Currently amended) A power tool comprising:

a powered drive source;

a speed reduction mechanism portion which includes a fixed gear and transmits for ~~transmitting~~ a rotational power of said powered drive source;

a striking mechanism portion for converting the rotational power of said speed reduction mechanism portion into a striking force;

an end tool for outputting the striking force through said striking mechanism portion;

and

an impact damping mechanism for damping an impact on said speed reduction mechanism portion in a direction of rotation of said fixed gear ~~speed reduction mechanism~~ portion.

Claim 2. (Currently amended) A power tool according to claim 1, wherein said impact damping mechanism comprises

a projection, formed on said ~~a~~ fixed gear of said speed reduction mechanism portion;

and

an impact damping member provided adjacent to said projection and a fixed gear support jig mounted in a housing.

Claim 3. (Previously presented) A power tool according to claim 1, wherein said impact damping mechanism comprises a projection, formed on a fixed gear support jig, and an impact damping member provided adjacent to said projection and a housing.

Claim 4. (Previously presented) A power tool according to claim 2, wherein said projection on said fixed gear is formed on a side surface or an outer surface of said fixed gear.

Claim 5. (Currently amended) A power tool according to claim 2, wherein said impact damping member is between said fixed gear and said fixed gear support jig, and is provided between a bearing of said striking mechanism portion or a bearing of said speed reduction mechanism portion and said housing.

Claim 6. (Previously presented) A power tool according to claim 3, wherein said projection on said fixed gear and said fixed gear support jig is formed on an outer surface of said fixed gear or said fixed gear support jig.

Claim 7. (Currently amended) A power tool according to claim 3, wherein said impact damping member is between said fixed gear and said fixed gear support jig, and is provided between a bearing of said striking mechanism portion or a bearing of said speed reduction mechanism portion and said housing.

Claim 8. (Previously presented) A power tool according to claim 1, wherein the drive source comprises a motor.

Claim 9. (Currently amended) A power tool according to claim 3 ~~2~~, wherein said projection on said fixed gear support jig, is formed on a side surface or an outer surface of said fixed gear support jig.

Claim 10. (Currently amended) A power tool according to claim 2, wherein said impact damping member is between said fixed gear support jig and said housing, and is provided between a bearing of said striking mechanism portion or a bearing of said speed reduction mechanism portion and said housing.

Claim 11. (Previously presented) A power tool according to claim 3, wherein said projection on said fixed gear and said projection on said fixed gear support jig are formed on a side surface of said fixed gear and said fixed gear support jig, respectively.

Claim 12. (Currently amended) A power tool according to claim 3, wherein said impact damping member is between said fixed gear support jig and said housing, and is provided between a bearing of said striking mechanism portion or a bearing of said speed reduction mechanism portion and said housing.

Claim 13. (Currently amended) A tool, comprising:

a drive source;

a speed reduction mechanism which includes a fixed gear and transmits for  
transmitting a power of said drive source;

a striking mechanism for converting the power of said transmitting mechanism into a striking force; and

an impact damping mechanism for damping an impact of said speed reduction mechanism in a direction of rotation of said fixed gear ~~speed reduction mechanism~~.

Claim 14. (Canceled).

Claim 15. (Previously presented) The tool of claim 13, wherein said striking mechanism converts the rotational power of said speed reduction mechanism into said striking force.

Claim 16. (Canceled).

Claim 17. (Previously presented) The tool of claim 13, further comprising:  
an end tool for outputting the striking force and a rotation force of said speed reduction mechanism through said striking mechanism.

Claim 18. (Currently amended) The tool of claim 13, wherein said impact damping mechanism comprises  
a projection formed on said a fixed gear of said speed reduction mechanism; and  
an impact damping member provided adjacent to said projection and a fixed support  
jig.

Claim 19. (Previously presented) The tool of claim 13, wherein said impact damping mechanism comprises  
a projection, formed on a fixed gear support jig of said speed reduction mechanism,  
and  
an impact damping member provided adjacent to said projection and a housing of said

tool.

Claim 20. (Currently amended) An apparatus, comprising:

an impact tool, powered by a driving force, for imparting a rotational impact force to an end tool, said impact tool comprising a fixed gear and an impact damping mechanism for damping said rotational impact force on a speed reduction mechanism in a direction of rotation of said fixed gear ~~speed reduction mechanism~~.

Claim 21. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein said impact tool comprises a striking mechanism for converting the power of said speed reduction mechanism into a striking force.

Claim 22. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein said impact damping mechanism comprises

a projection, formed on said a fixed gear of said speed reduction mechanism, and  
an impact damping member provided adjacent to said projection and a fixed gear support jig mounted in a housing of said impact tool.

Claim 23. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein said impact damping mechanism comprises a projection, formed on a fixed gear support jig, and an impact damping member provided adjacent to said projection and a housing.

Claim 24. (New) The power tool of claim 1, wherein said speed reduction mechanism

comprises a fixed gear support jig, and said impact damping mechanism comprises an impact damping member formed in a hole in said fixed gear support jig.

Claim 25. (New) The power tool of claim 24, wherein said hole comprises a pair of holes which are oppositely disposed on said fixed gear support jig.

Claim 26. (New) The power tool of claim 25, wherein said impact damping member comprises a plurality of impact damping members such that a pair of said plurality of impact damping members are formed in each of said pair of holes.

Claim 27. (New) The power tool of claim 26, wherein said impact damping member further comprises a pair of projections formed on a fixed gear of said speed reduction mechanism, each of said projections being disposed between a pair of said impact damping members.

Claim 28. (New) A tool, comprising:

- a drive source;

- a speed reducer that comprises:

- a fixed support jig that is fixedly supported by a housing of said tool; and

- a speed reduction device supported by said support jig and that transmits a rotational movement from said drive source;

- a striking mechanism that converts said rotational movement into a striking force; and

- an impact damping mechanism between said speed reduction device and said housing.

Claim 29. (New) A power tool comprising:

a main body portion having:

a motor serving as a drive source,

a speed reduction mechanism portion for transmitting a rotational power of said motor, and

a mechanical portion for transmitting the rotational power of the speed reduction mechanism portion to an end tool; and

a handle portion connected to the main body portion,

wherein said speed reduction mechanism portion includes:

a fixed gear having a gear in an inner periphery of the fixed gear, and

a fixed gear support member that holds the fixed gear,

wherein a projection extends toward the motor from a side of the fixed gear, and

wherein a hole portion that engages the projection is defined in the support member.

Claim 30. (New) The power tool of claim 29, wherein the fixed gear is held, so as to rotate by only a slight predetermined amount, by the fixed gear support member.

Claim 31. (New) The power tool of claim 29, further comprising:

an impact damping mechanism disposed in the hole portion of the support member in a rotating direction of the fixed gear.

Claim 32. (New) The power tool of claim 29, wherein an outer periphery of the support member is in contact with an inner peripheral surface of a housing of the main body portion,

and wherein a rotation stoppage projection extends from a side of the housing toward the motor.

Claim 33. (New) The power tool of claim 29, wherein an impact damping member is disposed on each side of the projection.